



GUIDELINES

GUIDELINE E.03 – Use and Storage of LPG Containers

E.03.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to assist business owners and others with understanding the requirements for the use and storage of portable propane cylinders awaiting use or resale.

E.03.2 SCOPE

All commercial occupancies shall comply with the requirements of the California Fire Code and this guideline in the use and storage of portable LPG containers. Storage of portable containers of 1,000 pounds or less, whether filled, partially filled or empty, at consumer sites or distributing points, and for resale by dealers or resellers shall comply with this guideline.

E.03.3 DEFINITION

Liquefied Petroleum Gas – A material which is composed predominantly of the following hydrocarbons or mixtures of them; propane, propylene, butane (normal butane or isobutene) and butylenes.

E.03.4 PROCEDURE

Obtain an application for an annual LPG permit from the Fire Prevention Division website or by calling (949) 644-3106. A plot plan indicating the location of the following items is required to be submitted with the application:

1. Location of the approved cabinet or cage for storage of containers
2. Location of all structures and exits including neighboring property if applicable
3. Location of combustibles such as weeds, grass, brush, trash and other combustible materials to where cylinders will be stored and used

Application will be reviewed by the Fire Code Official. Upon approval and payment of applicable fees you will receive an annual permit for the Use and Storage of Portable LPG Containers.



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E.03.5 USE AND STORAGE

Storage

- Storage of containers awaiting use, resale or part of an exchange program shall be stored in an approved cabinet or cage.
- Containers in storage shall be located in a manner which minimizes exposure to excessive temperature rise, physical damage, or tampering.
- Location of storage cabinet or cage shall be in accordance with the following minimum requirements:
 1. 720 Pounds or Less
 - 5 feet from a doorway or opening to a building with two exits
 - 10 feet from a doorway or opening of a building with one exit
 - 10 feet from combustible materials
 - 20 feet from motor vehicle fuel dispensers
 2. 721- 1,000 Pounds
 - 10 feet from line of adjoining property occupied by schools, places of religious worship, hospitals, athletic fields, or other points of public gathering, busy thoroughfares, or sidewalks
 - 5 feet from a doorway or opening to a building with two exits
 - 10 feet from a building or opening with one exit
 - 10 feet from combustible materials
 - 20 feet from motor vehicle fuel dispensers
- Empty containers shall be considered as full containers for the purpose of determining maximum quantities of LPG allowed.
- Vehicular Protection shall be provided as required by the Fire Code Official.
- Containers which are not in use shall not be stored on roofs.
- Containers shall not be stored in basements, pits or similar locations where heavier-than-air gas might collect.
- Where the provisions of this guideline are impractical at construction sites, or at a building or structure undergoing major renovation or repairs, an alternative location and protection will require approval of the Fire Code Official.



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Uses

- The following is a list of approved uses under this permit:
 1. Portable barbecues used in conjunction with special events
 2. Portable heaters used in conjunction with special events
 3. Heaters used to provide heat for tents
 4. Containers awaiting resale or part of an exchange program
- Containers shall remain in storage until time of use. Upon completion of specified use, the container shall be removed from the device and placed back in storage.